

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension or)	
)	
Revocation of the Educator Certificate)	ORDER OF
)	
of David M. Wolfe,)	REVOCATION
)	
Certificate 223299)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on December 13, 2006. On October 11, 2006, in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370 (2004), the State Board summarily suspended the educator certificate of David M. Wolfe, certificate 223299. The Department of Education (Department) sent Mr. Wolfe notice of the summary suspension and of his right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible revocation or suspension of his educator certificate by regular and certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery. Mr. Wolfe received the notice, as evidenced by a postal receipt bearing his signature. Mr. Wolfe did not request a hearing within the time frame specified in the notice. After considering the information presented, the State Board voted to revoke the certificate of Mr. Wolfe.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Wolfe holds an initial educator certificate and has one year of teaching experience. On September 18, 2006, Florence County School District One placed Mr. Wolfe on administrative leave from his position as a teacher at South Florence High School, upon learning that the Florence County Sheriff's Office was investigating Mr. Wolfe's conduct. The allegations against Mr. Wolfe included providing alcohol to minors and storing inappropriate pictures of minors on his school computer. Mr. Wolfe was arrested on September 22, 2006, on

charges of contributing to the delinquency of a minor and second degree sexual exploitation of a minor. Mr. Wolfe resigned from his position with the District, effective October 9, 2006.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The South Carolina State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (1991). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that there is sufficient information to support its decision to revoke the certificate of Mr. Wolfe. Should Mr. Wolfe ever wish to reapply for certification in South Carolina, he may not do so until after December 12, 2009. To be eligible for certification at that time, Mr. Wolfe must meet all current certification requirements, to include a satisfactory criminal record background check.

South Carolina State Board of Education

/S/ Joe Isaac
Joe Isaac, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
December 13, 2006